



Chief of Naval Personnel visits USS Kitty Hawk

By Journalist 1st Class Scott Mishley, USS Kitty Hawk Public Affairs

USS KITTY HAWK, At Sea (NNS) — After a non-stop trip from Washington, D.C., Vice Adm. Norbert R. Ryan Jr., Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP), landed aboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) near Japan June 4 to join the ship's crew and the Sailors of Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5 as they began their last night of a scheduled deployment.

"I've been anxious to meet with you," said Ryan, to the crew via SITE-TV. "I've been really looking forward to meeting the Sailors who serve in the forward-deployed naval force, where the tip of the spear really is the tip."

Hawk/5 Sailors asked numerous questions of Ryan face-to-face as the admiral strolled the passageways of America's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier. Ryan addressed issues

ranging from the new career development team, set to replace the old command retention teams, to the responsiveness of detailers to fleet Sailors.

"Enlisted detailers (have been) charged with responding to e-mails within 48 hours," Ryan told the Sailors, "and phone calls within 48 hours."

Dental Technician 3rd Class (SW/AW) Nadean Barton is one example of the recent improvements in Sailor-to-detailer communication. Through e-mail alone, and within a month, she received the orders of her choice to Naples, Italy.

"I was anxious about getting the orders I wanted," said Barton, a Bronx, N.Y., native. "She (the detailer) gave me step-by-step instructions on how to prepare for my next duty station."



USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) Commanding Officer Allen G. Myers and Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Norb Ryan talk with the crew by the ship's site-TV.

Photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Erich Ryland

Another detailing issue important to Kitty Hawk Sailors was detailer visits to overseas commands.

"Using more government travel programs and other means, we're going to try to get detailers to visit

(Yokosuka-based commands) every six months," said Ryan. "Also in the works is to add career development teams on the visits."

These teams will explain

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CNO, MCPON team up in new video to reduce injuries, death

By CNO Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — A new video, aimed to help reduce the hundreds of needless injuries and deaths Sailors suffer each year, will be released to the fleet next month.

According to Capt. Denis Faherty, Operational Risk Management (ORM) director for the Navy, the video is an early landmark on the road to a

change of culture in the service.

"We have a moral responsibility to protect people as well as defend the country," said Faherty.

The video is being released to drive home the Navy's commitment to ORM as the best way to keep Sailors safe in dangerous environments — on and off duty.

Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Jay L. Johnson and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Master Chief Machinist's Mate (SS/SW/AW) Jim Herdt team up in the video to explain why the Navy is moving to embrace ORM.

Johnson noted that the reason is obvious.

"Simply put, we are losing too many of our shipmates to death and serious injury during exercises and training. We must take action now to stop it," the CNO said.

Herdt made the point that the principles of ORM also apply to Sailors during off-duty hours.

"The number one cause of death of Sailors and Marines is traffic accidents, especially those in private motor vehicles," Herdt said. "For the years 1995 through 1999, 61 percent of fatalities were from traffic accidents." ORM, said Herdt, is about making intelligent decisions. He

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summed up risk management's purpose by quoting actor John Wayne. "Remember what John Wayne said... 'Life is tough, but it's tougher when you're stupid.'"

ORM was first introduced to the Navy with the release of OPNAVINST 3500.39 in 1996, said Faherty. It was first implemented in aviation units, and then spread fleet-wide in 1998.

CNO considers ORM a leadership tool, and charged the Navy with making it work at every level.

"I'm asking you to take it aboard and implement it through the chain of command," said Johnson. "Flag officers, commanding officers, command master chiefs — infuse the principles of ORM down to the deckplates... and Sailors, I'm charging each and every one of you to incorporate it into your daily activities, both on and off duty. Together we can do it and make the world's greatest navy even better — and safer!"

Commands should begin receiving the new video in July. For additional guidance or ideas on training and implementing ORM at your command, see OPNAVINST 3500.39, or contact Faherty at mailto: faherty.denis@hq.navy.mil.

SECNAV visits hometown grammar school in NYC

By Navy Office of Information East

NEW YORK (NNS) — Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig recently connected with the public schools in New York City when he paid a brief visit to the elementary school he graduated from in 1956.

Public School Six (PS 6), located in the Upper East Side of Manhattan, hosted the Secretary for a two-hour tour of the school June 2.

Danzig had just finished a visit to the Naval Foundry and Propeller Center in Philadelphia to witness the pouring of a molten combination of nickel, aluminum and bronze, which would become a propeller for the second Virginia-class submarine. He was getting an update on the

propeller when he decided to visit PS 6 and talk to students there.

While touring the various classrooms with the assistance and permission of Principal Carmen Farina, the Secretary asked the students questions about the Navy.

He asked one class the difference between the Navy and the Army. One child responded that the Navy has boats and riding on them will make you "get sick and throw up."

He asked a class studying poetry to write a poem about the Navy. The one with the best poem would get a prize, he promised. By the end of the trip, his aide had a huge stack

of Navy-related poems for the SECNAV to review. Here are two samples:

"'I wonder' by Jessica — I wonder what it would be like to be in the Navy and live in a boat driving across the sea all day working out problems and helping the whole, wide world."

"'Iceberg' by Donovan — The iceberg is in atlantic sea. Some icebergs are small. It will crack, crack, crack until it is gone. The big icebergs are in the middle of the cold, cold, cold sea."

Danzig asked another class which was studying the country of Japan to translate some

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Around the Fleet



Members of Beachmaster Unit 1, Det. A, offload heavy equipment from LCC 1633 in Hawaii for use in exercise Strong Angel.
U.S. Navy photo by Senior Chief Photographer's Mate Terry Cosgrove

Retirees: An important part of the Navy family

By Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Quality support for retired Sailors is a primary concern of personnel officials who have heard the concerns of retirees. Changes are being implemented to let them know they are a valuable part of the Navy family.

One of the most important tools in getting the word out to retirees and prospective retirees is the Navy Retired Activities Branch (PERS 622) of the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tenn.

That office and the Transition Management Program (PERS 622C1) have combined their efforts to help better inform Sailors of the benefits they are entitled to upon retiring and assist retirees with any questions they may have. The Navy Retired Activities Branch can be reached at (800) 255-8950 or via e-mail at <mailto:p622s@persnet.navy.mil>.

Areas of concern that the Navy Retired Activities Branch is working to address range from the responsiveness of Defense Finance and Accounting Service-Cleveland (DFAS-CL) to telephone calls during peak hours, to retiree medical care, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH).

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service-Cleveland has implemented an employee/member self service system aimed at improving customer service during high volume calling hours. Once assigned a pin number, users can call a 1-800 number or use the Internet to conduct business matters such as changing their federal tax status, their mailing address, or their Electronic Funds

Transfer (EFT) address and updating financial institution account numbers and allotment information.

Down the road, users will be able to change state tax status and exemptions and update bond information. For more information, go to the DFAS web site <http://www.dfas.mil> or call (800) 321-1080. Survivor Benefit Plan annuitants can call DFAS Denver at (800) 435-3396.

The Navy is currently looking at several Department of Defense projects to determine the best method of providing comprehensive, cost-effective medical care to all retirees. The VCNO is taking part in a TRICARE working group that

is determining how to improve the process of filing claims, identifying caregivers, and billing.

Areas of interest for prospective retirees and their families include topics such as the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), a voluntary program in which a retiree forfeits a small portion of their retired pay to provide an annuity to their designated survivors after their death. Spouses need to know that when a retiree passes on, their retired pay stops.

An important benefit prospective retirees need to be aware of is the Armed Forces Retirement Home (ARFH). Formed in 1991, base commanding officers have been

asked to ensure all enlisted and officer Sailors are aware of the home and what it has to offer.

Another good source is the LIFELines web site <http://www.lifelines4qol.org>, which contains comprehensive information on all retiree programs.

Information on the benefits and entitlements available to retirees is the quarterly newsletter, "Shift Colors." Commander, Naval Personnel Command (CNPC) will be mailing a copy of "Shift Colors" to all prospective retirees. That information is also available on the BUPERS web site <http://www.bupers.navy.mil> under the "News Stand" section.

Around the Fleet



Lance Cpl. Jaques Mason, from Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, signals the next HUMVEE to come aboard USS Boxer (LHD 4). The HUMVEEs are loaded with supplies, water, food and fuel for Exercise Strong Angel, the first time in 30 years that humanitarian response has been included in Pacific Rim (RIMPAC) exercises.

U.S. Navy Photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Lena Gonzalez

Navy's National Apprenticeship Program becomes USMAP

By CNET Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) — The Marine Corps and Coast Guard have joined with the Navy to form the United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP).

Formerly known as the Navy's National Apprenticeship Program, the goal of the program remains the same; to develop highly skilled journeymen and women through military training and experience that will lead to certification in a designated trade, occupation or craft.

A federally approved apprenticeship program under the guidelines of the U.S. Department of Labor, USMAP develops highly trained military service personnel who will continue to use their technical skills and knowledge while on active duty. After fulfilling their military obligation, service members in the program will qualify for employment in sought-after civilian trades, such as carpentry and welding.

To qualify for the program, enlisted service members must be on active duty, have a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma

(GED) equivalent, be designated in a job specialty (or rating) with approved apprenticeable skills and meet the requirements for the journeyman rating/military occupational specialty applicable to the trade.

The benefits of joining the program include recognition of skills learned, documented proof of work experience and related technical instruction, and improved chances of finding full-time employment when entering the civilian sector.

Completion of the program leads to certification in a designated trade, occupation, or craft and often means starting jobs with higher pay in the civilian workforce. Some colleges may offer credit for completion of the apprenticeship program toward an Associate of Applied Science degree. Individuals who successfully complete the USMAP are issued a Certificate of Completion of Apprenticeship from the U.S. Depart-



ment of Labor and are considered among the most highly skilled craftsmen in industry.

For more information and to see if your rating/occupational specialty is one of the 107 approved trades eligible for this career opportunity program, check with your command Education and or Training Department, Command Career Counselor or Educational Services Officer.

For a complete list of approved trades and further information, visit <http://www.cnet.navy.mil/nnaps> on the Internet, or call the Apprenticeship Program Office at DSN 922-4940 ext. 307/312 or commercial at (850) 452-4940 ext. 307/312, or by e-mail mailto: netpdtc.usmap@cnet.navy.mil.

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to Sailors the various policies and benefits of choosing a career in the Navy, an area that Ryan has been looking at closely. He said he's optimistic because better advancement rates, increased pay and improved sea-shore rotations are making the Navy a better career option for many Sailors.

"Congress has got the message," said Ryan. "I've testified that we're in a war for talent and we've got to win that talent. We've got to win that war and keep you in the Navy and we're working on that. Your Secretary, your Chief of Naval Operations and your Chief of Naval Personnel understand, and we're working very hard."

"We are buying down the basic allowance for housing out-of-pocket (expense) down to 15 percent from 19 percent. It's going to go down to zero by 2005. Last year we put \$97 million into the selective reenlistment bonus. This year it's \$135 million."

Ryan's trip to Kitty Hawk, and the good news he brought with him, helped make the last night of a successful deployment all the more positive for Hawk/5 Sailors.

For more information about America's only forward-deployed aircraft carrier, go to <http://www.kittyhawk.navy.mil>.

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simple Japanese phrases into English.

Throughout his tour of the school he talked and joked with the students and handed out Navy gifts. Items in big demand were little super-bounce balls with tiny ships

inside.

The SECNAV also passed out coins, key chains and other assorted goodies. Some kids tried to barter with the SECNAV with anything they could find — pencils, chewed-up erasers, whatever worked.

Ms. Joan Goldberg, a second grade teacher at the school, stated she remembered the Secretary as "the smartest boy in the class." Goldberg had been a classmate of Danzig's when they were students at PS 6.

USS Constellation hosts Battle of Midway veterans

By Journalist 1st Class S.D. James, USS Constellation Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) — It's been 58 years since the Battle of Midway, regarded by most historians as World War II's turning point in the Pacific.

Some of the heroes who made history during that battle celebrated its anniversary aboard the San Diego-based aircraft carrier USS Constellation (CV 64) June 2.

More than 500 veterans, guests, and Connie Sailors filled the flight deck of "America's Flagship" during the two-hour reception, which featured great food, music, entertainment and a lot of memories and story telling.

"It was a great event, and I was proud to be a part of it," said Airman George Acosta of Miami, Fla. "It was interesting to talk to a lot of the veterans and hear about some of the things they went through."

The veterans also enjoyed themselves, and it gave them a chance to share their experiences with today's Sailors.

"It's amazing to see how the Navy operates now compared to when I was in over 50

years ago," said Midway veteran and retired Cmdr. George McFetridge, of Oceanside, Calif. "I could spend all day and recall all my stories. Some were good, some were horrible. But it's just an honor to be out here on the Constellation with my family, friends and some of the best Sailors in the world."

Even though this event had all the standard reception elements such as music from the San Diego Navy Band and attendance by top Navy leaders, this wasn't a typical ceremony — not to the men who risked their lives for freedom.

"It makes my year to come out to events like this," said the teary-eyed retired Cmdr. Gale Burkey, a Midway veteran from Des Moines, Iowa. "I look forward to many more of these in the future. I think it's great that the Navy can do things like this. It makes me feel so proud as a veteran to be honored and recognized."

"I was able to speak with Cmdr. Burkey for a long time," said Seaman Thomas Mitchell. "We're both from Des Moines,

Iowa, and we talked about home, the Navy and our different jobs that we do."

"It gives me a wet handkerchief to come out here," said Floyd Williams, who was a Marine Corporal aboard USS Yorktown (CV 5), which sank during the famous battle. "It's very emotional for me to be out here."

One of the reception highlights was a special fly-over by vintage World War II aircraft, including a Dauntless, Wildcat and Bearcat. Guests were also able to see a rare World War II Japanese Zero aircraft, which was on display on Constellation's pier.

"It was great having these American heroes on board," said Capt. Jamie Kelly, of Scotia, N.Y., Constellation's commanding officer. "It made me think of the odds they were all up against, the challenges they faced, and the courage they had. It's an honor for the ship,

and an honor for me to meet them."

All of the veterans, Sailors, family and friends who were present at this "victory at Midway" celebration will have a special memory that will follow them for years to come, for this was an event that honored those who risked their lives for America.

For more information about USS Constellation, go to <http://www.navy.mil/homepages/cv64>.



On Navy/Marine Corps News

Look for the following stories and more on next week's show:

- * Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen and thousands of veterans attend the grand opening of the National D-Day Museum in New Orleans;
- * Sailors and Marines at the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center in Panama City, Fla., celebrate the school's twentieth anniversary;
- * Navy Corpsmen, doctors and dental technicians make a house call in east Africa to help Kenyans during exercise "Natural Fire";
- * Yokosuka Sailors at the Optical Fabrication Lab help hundreds of their shipmates and veterans see better, one pair of glasses at a time.

Compiled on tape #2000-25, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

In naval history: June 19-20, 1944

Planes from Task Force 58, under the command of Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher, successfully defeated Japanese carrier forces in the Battle of the Philippine Sea.

Both sides clashed in the last carrier-to-carrier action of World War II near the Marianas Islands. The Japanese had previously lost so many experienced pilots and ground crews that the battle ended up being very one-sided. By the time it was over, it had earned the nickname "The Marianas Turkey Shoot."

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